



ST. MARY'S R.C. PARISH

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Administrator: Fr. Gerry Bauche

Sunday Bulletin for February 26th, 2023

First Sunday of Lent

Sunday Masses:

Sunday: 10:00 AM & 5:00 PM

Divine Mercy Chaplet & Rosary before Mass

Weekday Masses:

Monday: 7:00 PM Mass, followed by the Exposition of Blessed Sacrament, the Novena to Our Lady of Perpetual Help & Benediction.

Tuesday to Saturday: 8:00 AM

Wednesday: 8:00 AM & 7:00 PM

Day of Reparation with Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament (9 AM – 6:45 PM)

Confessions:

Sunday Before each Mass.

Tuesday to Saturday Before 8:00 AM Mass.

Wednesday evening Until 6:45 p.m.

Also by appointment with Father Gerry.

Baptism:

Arrange with the pastor. Please notify six weeks before for proper preparation.

Marriage:

Arrange with the pastor one year in advance.

Devotions:

Fridays in Lent: Stations of the Cross @ 7 PM

Sunday: **before the 10 AM Mass**

Chaplet at 9:15 AM, Rosary at 9:30 AM

before the 5:00 PM Mass, Rosary at 4:30 PM

Monday: evenings after the 7:00 PM Mass,

Devotions to Our Lady of Perpetual Help.

Before weekday morning Masses, Divine Mercy

Chaplet at 7:15 AM followed by the Rosary

Wednesday, All day Adoration, 9 AM – 12 noon

Rosary & Reparation Prayers, 3 PM Divine

Mercy Chaplet, 6 PM – Divine Mercy chaplet,

Rosary, & Litany of Loreto.

1st Fridays of the month: All Night Vigil in honour of the Sacred Heart of Jesus and the Immaculate Heart of Mary, Mass at 7:30 PM on Friday evening, Confessions before and after, and Adoration until Mass at 8:00 AM on Saturday morning.

Parish Office Hours:

Monday & Tuesday – Parish calls will forward to my cell phone, please leave message or text.

Wednesday & Friday: 9 AM – 12 noon

Thursday: 9 AM – 2 PM

www.stmarysregina.com

Here's the Proof You're Truly Trusting God ~ Fr. Peter John Cameron, OP
The devil is very good at destroying trust in the Father.

The season of Lent begins every year with the Gospel about Jesus being tempted in the desert: "At that time Jesus was led by the Spirit into the desert to be tempted by the devil" (Mt 4:1). What is the devil's intention in tempting Jesus? What is he trying to achieve?

Here's the answer: The devil wants to damage Jesus' relationship with the Father so that Jesus will cease to love and trust him with Son-like affection. It's a ploy to get Jesus to treat the Father like a functionary, a force to be contended with—to frustrate + deprecate their relationship.

Mistaken about temptation

The problem is that the devil is very good at this. Think about how you yourself feel when unnerved by temptation. Most likely you presume: (a) that you have done something wrong; (b) that God is punishing and rejecting you; and (c) that God will not be happy until you prove to him that you are deserving of his love. If you succumb to all that claptrap, the devil has already won, which is extremely sad. Tragic!

But reconsider all this in the light of Jesus' temptations. In his case, who does the devil go after: someone who is bad ... or someone who is good? The answer, obviously, is someone who is good. *And that is why the devil goes after you with temptations.* The devil doesn't need to waste his time tempting people who are bad—they are totally adept at finding and giving into temptations on their own. No, the devil sets his sights on people who are *holy*, because if he can manage to be victorious in getting them to fall, then he has a trophy to wave maliciously in the face of Jesus.

The saints confirm this. St. Ambrose says that "the devil always envies those who strive for better things." So too St. Hilary of Poitiers: "The devil tempts those who are sanctified, for he desires above all to overcome the holy."

How to think about temptations

A chief priority, then, is changing the way we think about temptations, especially in three ways.

First of all, our response to temptation should be *gratitude*. We should be grateful when temptations come our way because their presence is a confirmation of our virtuous spiritual condition which the Evil One reckons to be a real threat. Hence his attack.

Secondly, we should be deeply *appreciative* of the supreme help temptations lend to our spiritual life. So often in our desire to grow in holiness, we don't have the faintest idea about where to begin. However, you can be sure that the temptations which the devil sends target that specific area of our life where we are weakest and most in need of growth. Would we ever have identified that on our own without the tussle with temptation?

And third, the time to worry is not when we are tempted but rather

[Here's the proof you're truly trusting God \(aleteia.org\)](http://aleteia.org)

{Continued on the next page under Faith Matters}

9:15 A.M. CHAPLET & ROSARY – SUNDAYS BEFORE THE 10 A.M. MASS

4:30 P.M. ROSARY BEFORE THE 5:00 P.M. MASS

Sun.	Feb. 26	10:00 AM	† Brian Schaeffer	Anne Schaeffer
	Feb. 26	5:00 PM	Missa Pro Populo // People of God	
Mon.	Feb. 27	7:00 PM	Mass, Holy Hour & Perpetual Help Devotion	
Tues.	Feb. 28	8:00 AM	† Rosemarie Mydynski	St. Mary's Parish & CWL
Wed.	Mar. 1	8:00 AM	† Maria Du Thi Vu	Thuy Pham
	Mar. 1	7:00 PM	† Cassandra Steranka	Steranka Family
Thurs.	Mar. 2	8:00 AM	† John LaHaye	(GB)
Fri.	Mar. 3	8:00 AM	Thanksgiving	Ed Janeliunas
	Mar. 3	7:30 PM	Living & Deceased Members of Queen of Peace	Queen of Peace Centre
Sat.	Mar. 4	8:00 AM	Thanksgiving	Ed Janeliunas
Sun.	Mar. 5	10:00 AM	† Rock Gomes & Veronica Pushpa Gomes	Gracius Gomes
	Mar. 5	5:00 PM	Missa Pro Populo // People of God	

COLLECTION FOR: February 19th, 2023

<i>Sunday Offering</i>	\$750.00	<i>Sunday Loose</i>	\$406.15
<i>Latin Mass</i>	\$750.00	<i>Latin Mass Loose</i>	\$43.00
<i>Total Collection</i>	\$1,949.15		

FAITH MATTERS: Cont'd from p.1 ~ [Here's the proof you're truly trusting God \(aleteia.org\)](http://aleteia.org)

when we are NOT struggling with temptation—because that means the devil regards us as not worth going after, probably because we are doing a yeomen’s job of wrecking our relationship with God on our own.

The connection between temptations and sanctification

How is it that we even know about Jesus’ temptations? The only answer that makes sense is that Jesus himself told his disciples about them. And he did so deliberately to exemplify *how crucial temptations are for growing in the love of the Father*. Jesus did not leave that desert the same way he entered it. He emerged with an even more intensive love for his Father ... with a more profound certainty and conviction to do the Father’s will and to live his mission with freedom set on fire. Through his temptations he “learned obedience from what he suffered” (Heb 5:8). Jesus models for us that temptations are a crucial part of sanctification.

The experience of temptation is a kind of school in holiness. The reason why God allows temptations to happen in our life is to teach us just how untrusting we are of him. What would you say is the human being’s greatest temptation? Don’t say cheesecake. It’s the temptation to think we are *autonomous*: that we are the makers of our own destiny ... that we can do everything on our own ... that the most successful people are the most self-reliant. The devil wants us to wallow in those delusions. Temptation is a graced occasion to become stronger by relying on God’s strength. The goal of temptation is to be open to receiving God’s love right in the midst of the upheaval of temptation.

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Temptations convince us that we have nothing to hope for in ourselves, and therefore it is a waste of time to try to be “self-sufficient.” Do you know what the proof is that you are truly trusting God in your life? It is that you go to him *immediately* when temptation strikes ... not letting shame or being humiliated or feeling disappointed in yourself get in the way. The devil is overcome when he knows that he cannot keep us from Jesus. So in your temptations, just get to Jesus. It’s not about “overcoming” temptations; it’s about letting Jesus’ love for you *dissolve* them.

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And we can do so serenely and with such great confidence because “God keeps his promise. He will not let you be tested beyond your strength” (1 Cor 10:13). No matter how ferocious the temptation, it cannot outdistance God’s divine providence holding you close and cheering you on.

It is not an exaggeration to say that, in many ways, the most important moment of your life is the second after temptation strikes. What do you do? Do you anguish about why you are being tempted and try to fight it off with your willpower (= disaster)? Or do you surrender yourself into the arms of Jesus? Let’s do that ... and all this Lent let’s really mean it when we pray in the Our Father *lead us not into temptation*. What we’re saying is:

I know I need temptations in order for you to purify and perfect me. But when they come, don’t let them lead me to discouragement or delusion. Let them lead me to a greater love of you!

The Marian Centre asks that donations of men’s clothing be suspended for the months of February and March, as we have clothing sufficient to meet the requests of those coming to us at this time. We resumed serving hot noon meals last June and continue to be grateful for the generous support we have received which makes this possible. Thank you!

Fridays in Lent: Stations of the Cross @ 7 PM